



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY:

*Safeguarding
Hoosiers by
Planning,
Preparing and
Responding*

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THE HOOSIER RESPONDER

Volume 2, Issue 4

APRIL 2006

Indiana's Unique Partnership with Higher Education Receives Praise

Indiana's approach to engaging its higher education community in homeland security was center stage during a conference held earlier this month. Representatives of Indiana's higher education community met to participate in the *Indiana Conference on Homeland Security and Emergency Management- Higher Education's Roles and Responsibilities*.

IDHS, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, and the Independent Colleges of Indiana co-sponsored the event hosted by the Indiana Emergency Management/Homeland Security Higher Education Advisory Board. The organizations sponsored a similar conference in 2004, which spurred the creation of the Board. Experts from around the country participated in the con-

ference that focused on how to enhance educational opportunities in emergency management and homeland security in Indiana's higher education institutions, in addition to how to prepare graduates for careers in those fields.



Above: Dr. Joanne Nigg (l), presented on research and program funding in emergency management homeland security with fellow panelists (l-r) Dr. Hank Fischer, Dr. Tom Christenberry (moderator), Kay Goss and Dr. Bill Waugh.

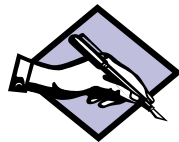
Many of the experts agreed Indiana's effort, through the Indiana Emergency Management/Homeland Security Higher Education Advisory Board, to link up higher education institutions' homeland security programs is a national first. Many states cur-

rently coordinate projects with colleges and universities within their states on a project-by-project basis. However, Indiana is the first to bring together a cross section of all of the state's higher education community to advance coordination of efforts to bring about a robust, comprehensive emergency management/homeland security education system among the institutions.

"I hope the rest of the nation will follow Indiana's lead because you are way out front doing this collaborative effort," said Kay Goss. Goss, a

former Associate Director of FEMA's National Preparedness, Training and Exercises Directorate, is a Senior Advisor for Homeland Security, Business Continuity, and Emergency

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From the Desk of Director Dietz

After a long winter, many Hoosiers look forward to the warmer weather of Indiana's spring season. However, spring in Indiana also means an increased potential for flooding and severe storms, sometimes with very little warning.

Recent severe weather across our state highlights the importance of standing ready to provide a professional, rapid response to whatever nature may bring. From these events, we

must also take the opportunity to learn what we are doing well and what areas need improvement. Additionally, it highlights the need for state and local officials to work collectively to develop first-rate plans, training and exercise programs to offer Hoosiers highly trained and well-prepared first responders and emergency managers.

Indiana's Strategy for Homeland Security calls for the

development of plans, training and exercises to prepare us for large-scale disasters that could impact Indiana, similar to the devastation Hurricane Katrina caused the Gulf Coast States. These efforts combined will ensure we work to continually develop and reevaluate plans, train key responders to act as identified by plans, and, finally, exercise or practice plans to provide the right response,

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Indiana Holds Pandemic Influenza State Summit

IDHS recently partnered with the Governor's Office, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) and other agencies to host a Pandemic Influenza State Summit at Purdue University. The summit, designed to help state and local governments and other organizations develop plans for responding to this potential public health crisis, included the participation of Governor Mitch Daniels and U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt.

A pandemic, by nature, will create a national and even international crisis. Therefore, many discussions emphasized the fact that preparedness for such an event will require coordination among federal, state and local governments, as well as partners in the private sector. At the state level, IDHS, in close cooperation with ISDH, will serve as the lead agency for the state's response to an influenza pandemic.

In addition to preparedness, summit participants discussed a wide range of topics related to necessary actions during a pandemic. Topics included:

- Preservation of basic needs such as water, food, electricity, and critical infrastructure;
- Action by government officials to impose possible actions such as travel bans, school and business closings, and the cancellation of public events; and
- Hospital surge capacity due to the potential large number of ill people.

The various agencies involved in the summit also formed



Above: U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt address the over 400 participants at the state's pandemic influenza summit.

"Tiger Teams" to address the tasks that each entity will take on as part of their own response plans or Emergency Support Functions (ESF). The teams will practice and evaluate

these tasks, and the inter-agency cooperation required, through future tabletop and full-scale exercises, throughout Indiana. The exercises will involve the execution of important initiatives such as the possible distribution of vaccines.

IDHS Spearheading COOP to Respond

Also an important topic of discussion at the state summit was Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP), a major part of IDHS' role in the

planning for a potential pandemic flu. Due to the potential for high absenteeism rates among personnel during a pandemic, this planning is critical to identifying ways to ensure all essential government operations still function adequately.

Using an electronic template created by IDHS, officials from many state agencies have already attended workshops outlining the necessity of COOP plans and how to use the template. The template assists the agencies in identifying essential functions, personnel, and processes which requires each agency to form a team of internal subject matter experts to complete. In addition, the COOP process at the state level requires the formation of a critical infrastructure committee to review the needs for communication capabilities, alternate facilities and interoperability of state agencies.

A Message from the State Fire Marshal...

Clearing the Smoke on Indiana's Fire Services Training

On March 27, 2006, Governor Daniels signed HEA 1099 into law at Indianapolis Fire Station 13. The impact of this new law on the ability of Indiana's emergency responders to receive first-rate training to protect their fellow Hoosiers is of great significance.

Fireworks go hand in hand with the Fourth of July and other celebrations across our nation. They are simply not going to go away. Although there were good faith efforts to limit the use of fireworks, they either faced a challenge in the legal system or were cumbersome to enforce.

HEA 1099 does authorize the use of consumer fireworks, requires purchasers be at least 18 years old, and imposes certain penalties for improper ignition, discharge, possession or use of certain fireworks. Additionally, the new law establishes an annual registration fee for retail sales of fireworks and assesses a five percent public safety fee on the retail sale of fireworks.

The assessment of fees on fireworks sales is what will prove so very beneficial to emergency responders in Indiana. The monies collected will enable us to fund both a long sought after statewide firefighter training system and the

state's disaster relief fund. The funds may also aid emergency units that do not qualify for Federal Disaster Assistance, replacing firefighting equipment, protective clothing for firefighters, and expenses incurred by agencies assisting other agencies during a state of emergency.

Prior to the signing of HEA 1099, Indiana was one of only a few states nationwide with no training funds from state government for fire and emergency services personnel. Training for law enforcement, on the other hand, has received funding both in Indiana and nationally for over thirty years.

As in most professions, the

implementation of thorough, comprehensive and universal standards in training makes a difference in effectiveness and safety in fire services. In order for Indiana's fire departments to function safely, training among firefighters must be uniform in every area of the state and the basic skills a firefighter processes must be in line with the national response plan. This enhances our ability to interact quickly and decisively at the scene of an emergency.

Now, Indiana's firefighters will have an opportunity to improve their training and skills with a state training program never before

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April EMA Spotlight...

PUTNAM COUNTY

Kim Hyten is the Director of the Putnam County Emergency Management Agency. Kim, a life-long resident of Putnam County, accepted the part-time director position in 1995. As director, Kim established the county's first Emergency Operations Plan and, with assistance from the county, established additional severe weather sirens throughout Putnam County. He also assisted with a county full-scale exercise which included numerous first responder organizations. Currently, Kim serves as the chair of the Local Emergency Planning Committee, a member of Task Force 7, and a member of the Putnam County Medical Corp.

Putnam County EMA Progress:

- Utilized Homeland Security Grant Program funds to:
 - Purchase CBRNE and 800 MHZ radios for all 20 emergency service departments within the county, including the City of Greencastle's Police and Fire departments.
 - Purchased PPE and mass decontamination equipment for the Greencastle, Bainbridge and Cloverdale Township Fire Departments, and the county's three HazMat Teams.
 - Currently pursuing purchase of air monitoring equipment with 2005 funds.

- Completed Putnam County's formal recognition and adoption of NIMS and hosted NIMS courses for all emergency service personnel in the county to achieve compliance.
- Developing and implementing first ever county respiratory protection plan with the Putnam County Health Department to benefit all county emergency service personnel.
- Sponsored numerous HazMat Tech classes, bringing the total number of HazMat technicians in the county to nearly 60.



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Annual CSEPP Exercise Conducted

Earlier this month, the annual full-scale Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) Exercise took place at the Newport Chemical Depot. The exercise scenario centered on a container of VX falling off a truck during transport within the Depot and subsequent exposure to Depot personnel.

Numerous governmental and volunteer agencies participated in the exercise including: Department of the Army, U.S. DHS, IDHS, Vermillion County, Parke County, Fountain County, the State of Illinois, Edgar County (Illinois), Vermillion County (Illinois), Task Force 7, local fire departments, emergency medical services (EMS), West



Above: A medical helicopter arrives to transport a decontaminated injured "victim" to a local hospital as part of the annual CSEPP full-scale exercise.

Central Community Hospital, and St. Vincent's Hospital Williamsport.

The exercise tested the various jurisdictions' alert and notification systems, utilization of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), software modeling, decontamination

procedures, and command and control procedures. Overall, the exercise displayed effective use of communication systems, improvement in the use of Incident Command System in the response area, awareness of impact of exposure among responders and community, and increased efforts to document and ensure worker safety at the Depot.

Exercises often help participants learn potential problems in the event of a real life disaster. The recent Newport exercise was no exception. Some areas in need of improvement that arose included the lack of management and practice in utilizing PPE in some instances and an

For more information on the CSEPP Exercise Program, contact R.O. Stanley, CSEPP Instructor, IDHS Division of Training, at 317-232-6878 or rstanley@dhs.in.gov.

apparent separation between EMS and fire department resources at decontamination sites.

The next step in the exercise process is to meet with all involved personnel, review the observations, outcomes and findings, and determine what steps to take to make improvements and corrections to better protect the people of the Newport community.

The CSEPP exercise program is an ongoing training effort to ensure the safety of Indiana's citizen and the environment in the event of a chemical accident at the Newport Chemical Depot.

Firefighter Training Updates

Firefighter Training at the HSD

Over 75 fire service members attended a firefighter training meeting for Homeland Security District (HSD) 3 in Fort Wayne on March 15, 2006. The purpose of the meeting was to provide the fire service members with information about the development of a HSD 3 training organizing committee. State Fire Marshal Roger Johnson, IDHS Division of Training Director Joe Wainscott, and IDHS Training Project Manager John Buckman spoke to the group about the process of assessing the status and needs of the firefighters relating to certification at the mandatory, basic and Firefighter I/II levels.



Left: Fort Wayne Professional Firefighters Union President, James Ridley (top), and State Fire Marshal Roger Johnson spoke in support of HSD 3 firefighter training during a recent meeting in Fort Wayne.

IDHS asked the assembled group to meet at a county level to select one representative from each county to represent their county's fire organizations at the district level. The assembled representatives from each county are then responsible for developing an initial assessment and plan for delivering firefighter training in HSD 3.

Indiana Volunteer Firefighter Association President Jack Kerney, Vice-President Larry Ketchem, and Jim Ridely, who represented the Professional Firefighters Union of Indiana and the Fort Wayne Professional Firefighters Union, were on hand to lend their support to the training initiative.

Fire Chief Orientation Seminars Completed

IDHS and the Indiana Fire Chiefs Association presented six fire chief orientation seminars around the state. Over 500 fire chiefs participated in the seminars. The partnership between IDHS and the Indiana Fire Chiefs Association offered a unique opportunity to provide critical and timely information to fire chiefs to help them lead their departments in an ever changing environment.



Above: IDHS Division of Training Director, Joe Wainscott, addresses fire chiefs during one of six fire chief orientation seminars.

Tips for Submitting a Successful 2005 Indiana Homeland Security Grant Application

Concentrate on IDHS Focus Areas

- Interoperable Communications
- NIMS Compliance
- Training
- Planning

When in Doubt, Check the Guidance and the AEL

- FFY 2005 Guidance - www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/docs/fy05hsgp.pdf.
- Approved Equipment List (AEL) - www.rkb.mipt.org
 - Login, Choose "Search the RKB", select "DHS G&T Authorized Equipment List"

- If it is not allowable, you **CANNOT** request it.

Sometimes, More is Better

When submitting projects, the more detail provided, the more likely you are to move through the approval process without needing to provide additional information. Your project description, mitigation plan and sustainment plan are critical to a successful application.

Signatures, Signatures, Signatures!

In order to complete your application, you must obtain all required signatures and

submit your 2005 signature page at the same time you submit your online application.

Review by Field Staff

Before you submit your online application, it is imperative your HSD Field Coordinator review and approve your submission. IDHS **will not** accept applications without this review.

Each sub-grant application goes through a five-step approval process which includes your HSD Field Coordinator, Grants Branch Director, Local Support Director, Executive

Committee and, finally, the Executive Director.

Congratulations to the 14 grant applications that already received complete approval!

For more information on the Indiana Homeland Security Grant Program, contact Caitlin Intermill, Grants Management Branch Director, IDHS Division of Planning, at 317-234-3321 or cintermill@dhs.in.gov.

Recovery in Focus: SBA Loan Assistance

Although typically thought of as beneficial only to businesses, one of the primary sources of disaster assistance is the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA offers a Disaster Loan Program that provides low interest loans to homeowners, renters and businesses damaged by disaster and, in some cases, refinances all or a portion of prior mortgages.

The SBA Disaster Loan program is automatically available when there is a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration and the Individual Assistance program is provided. However, the Governor may request a SBA Disaster Loan program for smaller disasters when a minimum of 25 homes and/or businesses, in one county, sustain at least a 40 percent uninsured loss as compared to their fair market value. The Governor must certify in writing to the SBA that the state met the required criteria. Once the SBA receives the Governor's certification letter, they send a representative to the disaster area to confirm the criteria requirements.

Once an area receives an SBA Disaster Loan program designation, SBA representatives open an office to take applications or co-locate with FEMA in Disaster Recovery Centers in the case of Presidential Major Disaster Declarations.

The U. S. SBA's Disaster Loan program includes two types of loans, the physical disaster loan and the economic injury disaster loan (EIDL).

Physical Disaster Loan

Within an SBA Disaster Loan program designated disaster area, the SBA offers the following physical disaster loans to creditworthy homeowners and business owners:

Personal Property Loan: This loan provides a homeowner or renter with up to \$40,000 to repair or replace personal property damaged in a disaster. Generally, personal property is not anything considered real estate or a part of an actual structure. This loan will not cover replacement of extraordinarily expensive or irreplaceable items, such as antiques, collections, fur coats, or recreational boats or vehicles.



Real Property Loan: A homeowner may apply for a loan of up to \$200,000 to repair or restore their primary home to its pre-disaster condition. This loan will only cover structural improvements required by city or county building codes, not home upgrades or additions. The loan amount may increase by as much as 20 percent for mitigation measures to protect the damaged real property from similar future disasters.

Any business located in a SBA designated disaster area, which incurred damage during the disaster, may also apply for a loan to help repair or replace damaged property to its pre-disaster condition. The SBA makes physical disaster loans of up to \$1.5 million to qualified businesses. A business may include repair or replacement of real property, machinery, equipment, fixtures, and inventory and leasehold improvements in the loan. Once again, disaster loans to repair

or replace real property or leasehold improvements may increase as much as 20 percent for mitigation measures to protect the damaged real property against similar future disasters.

Charitable, religious, non-profit and similar organizations with the ability to obtain credit from other than the SBA are also eligible for physical disaster loans.

Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)

Small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives that suffered substantial economic injury resulting from a physical disaster or an agricultural production disaster designated by the Secretary of Agriculture are possibly eligible for EIDL. Substantial economic injury is the inability of a business to meet its obligations as they mature and to pay its ordinary and necessary operating expenses. Small businesses may request an EIDL for the amount of economic injury and operating needs not to



exceed what the business could have paid had the disaster not occurred. The maximum loan amount of \$1.5 million includes both economic injury and physical damage assistance.

Loan Repayment

The maximum maturity, or repayment term, of an SBA loan is 30 years. However,

the SBA determines repayment terms on a case-by-case basis according to repayment ability. Federal law requires a test of the applicant's ability to obtain funds elsewhere in order to determine the rate of interest to charge on the loan. The "credit-elsewhere" test applies to applicants for both personal property and real property loans.

For applicants who can obtain credit elsewhere, the current interest rate charged 5.75 percent. The rates, determined by formulas set by federal law based upon current market conditions, cannot exceed 8 percent per year.

For applicants determined unable to obtain credit elsewhere, the interest rate charged is half of the interest rate charged to applicants determined able to obtain credit elsewhere, but not to exceed more than 4 percent per year. Currently, the rate is 2.875 percent for renters and homeowners and 4 percent for businesses unable to obtain credit elsewhere.

Generally, SBA loans are made at the lower rate.

The SBA approved \$2,141,300 in disaster loans as a result of the January of 2005 ice storm and flooding in Indiana and over \$8.7 million in Warrick and Vanderburgh Counties as a result of the November 6, 2005 tornado. The SBA continues to process applications for Daviess and contiguous counties affected by the November 15, 2005 tornado and recently announced the opening of offices to service 19 counties affected by early April tornadoes and severe weather.

Community Wide Effort Makes the Difference

Twenty-one percent is a significant number in Kosciusko County. From 1999 to 2005, the percentage of individuals treated by Emergency Medical Service (EMS) providers under Kosciusko Community Hospital (KCH) who suffered cardiac arrest went from a zero to 21 percent survival rate in just six years. The national average survival rate is five percent.

A community wide effort in Kosciusko County, a mostly rural county in north central Indiana, is to thank for the large jump in the survival rate.

After Carla Gerbert joined KCH as the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) coordinator in 1998, she perceived a lack of Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) and CPR training within the community. Armed with information on the importance of early defibrillation following a cardiac arrest, Gerbert approached the community for assistance.

Kosciusko County 21st Century (K-21) Foundation, a community foundation, was first to assist by donating funds to place Bi-Phase Monitors on all ambulances within the county in 2001. The devices enable EMS personnel to monitor and, when necessary, shock the heart to bring it back to a normal beating rhythm. In 2002 and 2003, K-21 purchased AEDs for all city and county police cars and schools, in addition to numerous public buildings, businesses, churches, libraries and parks.

In addition to the life-saving equipment, KCH, with the support of community organizations and volunteers, initiated "Mega CPR" training throughout the county. Among those trained were police officers, fire dispatchers and other first responders.

"We know early intervention following cardiac arrest can save lives and we also know police officers, firefighters

and dispatchers are often the first to respond to a call. It was important we make them a part of our overall effort," said Gerbert, who is now the Multi-Township EMS Administrator. "In 2002, when the first AEDs were first placed in police cars, two victims of cardiac arrest were saved by early intervention with an AED by a police officer."

Mike Garvey, Deputy Director of IDHS' Division of Fire and

Building Safety stated, "This is a real success story for CPR and defibrillation in a rural county. Kosciusko County has done a great job in their EMS system. The bottom line is that they are saving lives."

In spite of their success, KCH and its partners throughout the county are not diminishing their efforts now. The community is initiating another "Mega CPR" training and recertification in 2006.

IDHS Congratulates

 **Kosciusko Community Hospital**

and the entire Kosciusko County community for saving lives!

NIMS Corner...

Visit the *NIMS ALERT* page at www.fema.gov/nims/

An actual NIMS question from a county... *"There seems to be a little confusion as to how, what, when, and who. The health department is stating that they only have to take IS-700. This presents a problem through out the County. If they only have to be at IS-700 level to be compliant, then why would any other response agency need to do more? I'm sure you are well aware that Health Departments take lead (IC) in any Bio type event. Please help me to explain this to our other County agencies. ..."*

Answer: The problem is at the federal level. The guidance IDHS distributed came directly from the NIC (NIMS Integration Center) and should apply

to all first responders. However, health departments receive their grant funding through the CDC and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA, which are components of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, not the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The CDC and HRSA funding guidance requires **only IS700 for this year.**

NIC and CDC intend to sort out discrepancies regarding NIMS requirements for the upcoming grant year.

The most concise summary of who needs to take what level of training for entry level first responders, first line supervisors, middle management,

command or general staff is available on page five of the original information package concerning NIMS and NIMCAST (Document #8- FFY06 NIMS training Details available at www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nims/06_training.pdf).

For FFY06, U.S. DHS requires IS700 and IS100 for first responders, at a minimum. Responders at a supervisory or command level must obtain higher levels of NIMS training.

Remember, compliance with NIMS will affect any agency's funding opportunities through U.S. DHS.

NOTICE: Recently, the federal government changed servers for the NIMS website. During the migration, several links to the website were lost. Please remain patient over the next few weeks as they reestablish the links for the public and reorganize the website to serve us better.

For more information about NIMS, contact Dave Barrabee, Homeland Security Planner, IDHS Division of Planning, at 317-233-6116 or dbarrabee@dhs.in.gov.

IDHS' Mitigation Section: Reducing Risks for Hoosiers

Unfortunately, Indiana is susceptible to events such as floods and storms that can create devastating effects. Luckily, however, IDHS has a team working to identify those potential hazards to protect Hoosiers and their communities.

IDHS' Mitigation Section provides financial and technical assistance to local governments and not-for-profits sponsoring projects to reduce the actual or potential risk of loss of life or property. The section's work is both proactive and reactive. Whether developing a strategy to address the elimination or reduction of hazards or acquiring flood damaged properties, the Mitigation Section works tirelessly to reduce harmful impacts from disasters.

Mitigation Strategy

The Mitigation Section assesses hazards within the state and determines vulnerability to those hazards, in addition to their potential impacts upon the state. Based on the information from this process, the section builds its strategy to reduce or eliminate hazards. Additionally, the section works to inform Hoosiers on measures they can take to protect themselves and their property from hazards.

Post Disaster Action

The Mitigation Section works with communities post-disaster to assist in mitigating future impacts of hazards upon the communities. These activities

include, but are not limited to:

- Acquiring and demolishing substantially damaged homes located within floodplains.
- Constructing community safe rooms.
- Retrofitting critical facilities to protect against seismic or high wind hazards.
- Developing informational materials to educate citizens on preparing for hazards in their community.

Since 2002, the Mitigation Section has acquired 91 properties through its Hazard Mitigation Program. IDHS estimates a need for nearly \$26 million to acquire a remaining 267 identified flood-damaged properties statewide.

Securing Funding

In order to implement strategies and assist communities post-disaster, the Mitigation Section administers federal grants from FEMA. Additionally, to maximize efforts and dollars, the section coordinates mitigation activities with other federal and state agencies such as the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Mitigation Takes Time

The Mitigation Section staff often becomes de facto members of the communities they assist. From development to receipt of funding, mitigation projects may take up to 18 to 36 months and an additional one to three years to complete after receiving funding. Along the way, the section takes part in numerous community visits and public meetings.

Helping Hoosiers

Post disaster, the Mitigation Section often fields numerous calls from community officials and citizens concerned on how to proceed in reconstructing their lives and property post-disaster. Due to the limited nature of many funding sources, the staff makes every attempt to find innovative ways to assist communities or organizations to aid homeowners beyond what is available the first few months post disaster.

Due to the length of mitigation projects, the staff of the Mitigation Section can share numerous stories of Hoosiers impacted by disasters. As a result, the staff takes great pride in their work and tremendous joy when they can notify a community of a grant approval to help Hoosiers get their lives back to "normal" without the burden of multiple mortgages, tax bills, and property maintenance.

Cellar Dwellers, Too!

Located in IDHS' Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the Mitigation Section will often assist their fellow Division of Emergency Response employees during emergencies in Indiana. In the last year, the section assisted the EOC operations during Indiana's response to Hurricane Katrina and following the November 2005 tornadoes. They also assist with damage assessments following disasters. IDHS greatly appreciates the Mitigation Section's flexibility and willingness to assist in times of emergency.



Above: The Mitigation Section staff include (l-r) Jan Crider, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Mary Moran, Mitigation Program Director, and Manuela Johnson, Mitigation Section Chief & Environmental Officer.



Above: IDHS Emergency Response and Recovery Director, Phil Roberts, along with the Mitigation Section recently presenting a check to the City of Decatur for a flood mitigation project.

For more information on IDHS' Mitigation Section, contact Manuela Johnson, Mitigation Section Chief and Environmental Officer, IDHS Division of Emergency Response and Recovery, at 317-233-4282 or mjohnson@dhs.in.gov.

From the Desk of Director Dietz

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at the right time and at the right place.

Indiana's plans must anticipate how we assist local government with preparedness and response efforts, when requested. However, local governments must also develop plans, based on their risk management processes, similar to the state's plans. This will assist them in determining their local response to disasters and emergencies, in addition to how to best utilize existing resources before requesting additional assistance from other governmental entities.

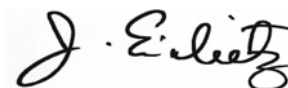
In light of our recent severe weather, I would also like to highlight the importance of Indiana's emergency managers to enhance their ability to react. It is imperative we seek training and education to improve our skill set and expertise as emergency management professionals. During any phase of any emergency, this ensures, consistent, proactive measures and processes are in place to protect the citizens we serve.

I also want to reiterate importance of working closely with the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during and

after severe weather. By maintaining communication with the state's EOC, we can work with local governments to ensure there are adequate shelters, response resources and capabilities, and an accurate initial storm damage report. All of these are vital to protecting Hoosiers and seeking potential federal assistance in the wake of severe weather.

Emergency managers often use the phrase "lessons learned." Without a doubt, we will always have "lessons learned" following a disaster. As we refine and develop new

plans and programs, it is important we not ignore "lessons learned." From these lessons, we can learn to provide leadership, effective management and use of funds for projects to improve preparedness and reduce risk that will better protect our fellow Hoosiers.



Indiana's Unique Partnership with Higher Education Receives Praise

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Management Services at the Electronic Data Systems Corporation.

Goss, who stressed the importance of a multi-disciplinary approach to homeland security, also praised Indiana for reaching outside the public sector. "I like the fact Indiana is not only taking an inter-governmental, inter-agency approach but also recruiting the private sector in its efforts."

Academia also praised Indiana for its work with the higher education community and beyond. Dr. Joanne Nigg, a Professor of Sociology and a faculty member of the Disaster Research Center at the University of Delaware, stated, "This type of partnership shows how the public and private sectors all have something to offer each other."

"Universities are becoming more service oriented," added Nigg, who noted no other

state is currently taking Indiana's approach to engaging the higher education community. "Indiana's work with higher education taps into this trend and also moves forward the concept of emergency management as a profession."

Dr. Hank Fischer, a Sociology Professor and Director for the Center for Disaster Research and Education at Millersville University of Pennsylvania, deemed Indiana's efforts a "best-practice."

Fischer noted how the Board provides a "unifying force" and brings about an awareness of common missions and challenges in the public and private sectors concerning mitigation and response. He added, "Although in the early stages, Indiana's emphasis on creating standards and accreditations to document capabilities (among emergency managers) will help show elected officials and the public they are getting something

for their investment."

Jay Siegel, a recent transplant to Indiana from Michigan State University and the Director of IUPUI's Forensic Science Program, the first degreed program in forensic science in Indiana, praised Indiana's system for accrediting higher education programs as a means to develop balanced and comprehensive training and education in homeland security and emergency management in the state. According to Siegel, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education's accreditation process ensures there are no duplications of effort among the state's higher education institutions thereby adding credibility to accredited programs.

"Accreditation is a standard by which students and the general public can measure what they can expect (out of a program)," stated Siegel. "Indiana's efforts to accredit homeland security programs

will help instill a strict set of standards which, in turn, gives the programs standing and the public confidence in their graduates."

The two-day conference held in Lebanon brought together approximately 80 representatives from Indiana's higher education community. "The conference not only enabled networking among academia involved in emergency management and homeland security programs, but also brought about discussions of how the Indiana Emergency Management/Homeland Security Higher Education Advisory Board can assist government and academia in working even more efficiently together in these areas," stated Brad Thatcher, IDHS' Assistant Training Division Director and Vice Chair of the Indiana Emergency Management/Homeland Security Higher Education Advisory Board.

A Message from the State Fire Marshal

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available. The program will allow easier access to training, standardization, be more cost effective, and offer firefighters the opportunity to keep up to date on new skills and techniques. In ever changing times, this means firefighters can garner skills to remain flexible when addressing new challenges that lie ahead.

It is clear we live in an environment that demands well-trained firefighters to respond to the wide variety of calls possible in Indiana. Fires, tornadoes, severe weather - they have all taken to task firefighters throughout Indiana over the last year. Last month alone, Indiana set a record of thirty fire related deaths and nearly a

dozen firefighters were injured in life saving and firefighting efforts. Massive fires in Dearborn, Orange and Madison counties all required large assignments of firefighters on 'Mutual Aid' requests and firefighters have been on scene following severe weather and deadly tornadoes.

Well-trained firefighters create a fire service better prepared to face daily challenges. It also means we can reduce injuries and deaths among firefighters and the citizens we serve. In addition, better training also enhances our ability to stop losses from fire in a more

efficient manner, which translates into good economics for our communities and state.

For decades, I have not only been a part of the fire service but have also listened to their concerns. I believe training means additional safety and added safety means everyone responding to an emergency gets to go home. So, I ask those that want to see improvements in how we answer the alarm, to please support this effort to enhance firefighter training in Indiana.



IDHS Inspectors on Site during Construction of Lucas Oil Stadium

In spite of unpleasant weather in recent months, construction of the new Indiana Stadium, recently named Lucas Oil Stadium, continues to move forward. Utilizing two shifts of personnel and a sandy river bottom for a base to keep mud away, progress is evident at the site of the \$675 million stadium in downtown Indianapolis.

Recently, staff from IDHS' Code Enforcement performed a periodic inspection on the new facility. In addition to IDHS, representatives from Patriot Engineering and other engineering representatives will conduct periodic inspections.

"The detailed construction of this facility is impressive," said Kevin Troy, Building Code Enforcement Official, IDHS Division of Fire and Building Safety. "With construction tolerances as small as one-eighth inch on the super columns which will support the retractable roof, tools such as GPS surveying are being extensively utilized."

Construction on the stadium, which began in November 2005, is scheduled for completion in August 2008. In addition to serving as the new

home to the Indianapolis Colts, the multi-purpose stadium will host NCAA Final Four basketball games, IHSAA football championships, the Circle City Classic and a variety of trade shows and conventions. Features of the 1.8 million square foot facility include a stadium seating capacity of 63,000 (capable of expanding to 70,000 for a Super Bowl) and a retractable roof allowing for indoor or outdoor events.



Top: Kevin Troy (l), IDHS Building Code Enforcement Official, and Chester Carrie (r), Hunt Construction, examine re-bar in one of the Lucas Oil Stadium's basement walls. Above: A view of the soil removed from the stadium construction site.

IDHS Announces New District Nine Field Coordinator

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security has hired a new Field Coordinator for Homeland Security District Nine. Kevin Salsbery will serve as the primary IDHS point of contact for County EMA Directors and other response agencies and personnel in District Nine, which consists of 12 counties in Southeast Indiana.

Salsbery comes to IDHS from Union County, where he has served as the EMA Director for three years. He also spent 10 years in the U.S. Air Force and has been a small business owner for eight years.

"We are very happy that Kevin has joined our staff," said IDHS Executive Director Eric Dietz. "The Field Coordinators play critically important roles as liaisons between our agency and local agencies. Kevin's experience

as a County EMA Director will provide him with a good understanding of the needs and challenges of those he will be working with."

Kevin says his biggest initial goal is to help get the District Council up and running fully. The purpose of those councils is to foster working relationships among various local agencies from multiple disciplines throughout the district.



Kevin Salsbery, Field Coordinator
ksalsbery@dhs.in.gov
317-696-0715

Mark Your Calendar!



April 22-23

Ground Search Techniques-Technician Level
(Mari Hulman George Search & Rescue Training Center)

April 26-7

NIMS HSD 7
(Rockville)

April 29

Basic Tracking/Trailing
(Mari Hulman George Search & Rescue Training Center)

May 2-4

ICS 300
(Camp Atterbury)

May 3

Fire & Building Safety Commission Meeting
(Indianapolis)

May 8

IERC Meeting
(Indianapolis)

May 10-11

Flood Fight Operations
(Camp Atterbury)

May 17

Animal Issues in Disasters
(Camp Atterbury)

May 19

EMS Commission Meeting
(Indianapolis)

May 20-21

Ground Search Techniques - Operations Level
(Mari Hulman George Search & Rescue Training Center)

May 23-24

Donations Management
(Camp Atterbury)

May 23-25

ICS 300
(Vincennes)

May 24-25

NIMS HSD 5
(Noblesville)

June 3-4

Resource Management
(Grissom)

June 6

Fire & Building Safety Commission Meeting
(Indianapolis)

June 6-8

ICS 300
(Grissom)

June 7

Boiler & Pressure Vessel Rules Board
(Indianapolis)

June 10-11

SAR Management - Awareness Level
(Mari Hulman George Search & Rescue Training Center)

June 13-15

ICS 300
(Sellersburg)

June 17-18

Developing and Managing Volunteers
(Camp Atterbury)

June 20-22

Management for Emergency Manager
(Camp Atterbury)

June 20-22

ICS 300
(Fort Wayne)

June 24-25

Air Scent—Intermediate Level
(Mari Hulman George Search & Rescue Training Center)

June 27-29

National CSEPP Workshop
(Indianapolis)
Storm Spotter Series
(Camp Atterbury)
ICS 300
(Indianapolis)

July 6

Fire & Building Safety Commission Meeting
(Indianapolis)

July 8-9

Water Search Techniques for K-9s
(Mari Hulman George Search & Rescue Training Center)
NIMS HSD 3
(Angola)

July 10

IERC Meeting
(Indianapolis)

July 11-14

Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program
(Grissom)

July 12

Regulated Amusement Device Safety Board Meeting
(Indianapolis)

July 15

Crime Scene Orientation-Blood Borne Pathogens
(Mari Hulman George Search & Rescue Training Center)

July 18-20

Effective Communication
(Grissom)

July 21

EMS Commission Meeting
(Indianapolis)

July 25-27

ICS 300
(Valparaiso)



Announcements

- The **Fire Department Instructor's Conference** is April 24-29 in Indianapolis. For more information, visit <http://fdic06.events.pennnet.com/fl/index.cfm>.
- Need training information? Check out www.firstrespondertraining.gov offered by the U.S. DHS.
- You can now get information on pandemic influenza on your cell phone! Visit www.publichealthgames.com.
- National Peace Officers Memorial Day** is May 15, 2006. To learn more, visit www.nleomf.org.
- National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Memorial Weekend** is October 6-8, 2006. To learn more visit www.firehero.org.

Beginning in May, you can register to receive *The Hoosier Responder* directly via-email. Check out next month's issue for details!

Please welcome to IDHS...

Kevin Salsbery
Division of Planning Division
Local Support Branch

Donna Saine
Division of Agency Support
Services



*Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Safeguarding Hoosiers by
Planning, Preparing and Responding*

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Indiana Government Center South
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The Hoosier Responder is a publication of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Please direct any questions or comments to the IDHS Public Information and Outreach Office at 317-232-6632.